

006-8-CIP:CJB:136922

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Cary GLOODT) Before the Examiner
Serial No. 09/849,659)
Filed May 4, 2001)
METHOD AND APPARATUS) Group Art Unit 3751
FOR PURGING WATER FROM A) August 1, 2001
WHIRLPOOL SYSTEM)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Date of deposit

John Brannon

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

August 1, 2001
Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

AUG 7 - 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' continuing duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.97 (b)(3), the following patents are brought to the attention of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and specifically to the attention of the Examiner assigned to the subject patent application. The submitted documents are listed on the attached PTO Form and a copy of each reference is included for the Examiner's convenience.



RECEIVED

AUG 7 - 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

U.S. PATENT REFERENCES

Patent No.	Date	Inventor
4,563,781	01/1986	James
5,012,535	05/1991	Klotzbach
5,383,239	01/1995	Mathis, et al.
5,862,545	01/1999	Mathis, et al.
5,865,601	02/1999	Miller
5,896,597	04/1999	Kurth, et al.
6,199,224	03/13/01	Versland
4,857,112	08/15/89	Franninge
3,964,472	06/22/76	Nicollet

FOREIGN PATENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY
0 519 572	12/1992	Europe
5-309052	11/1993	Japan

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

Royal Spa Product Brochure, Royal Spa Manufacturing, 2041 West Epler Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46217
Brochure circa Nov. 1998 showing whirlpool bathtub systems featuring aerated water jet nozzles.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH REFERENCES

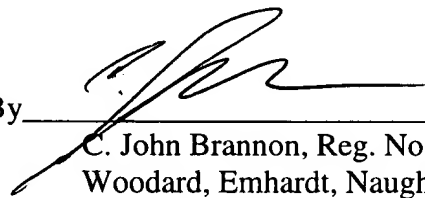
A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language prior art patents under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as presently understood by the individual designated in §1.56(c) as most knowledgeable about the content of the information is set forth below.

Japanese Patent No. 5-309052

Japanese Patent No. 5-309052 appears to disclose a whirlpool bathtub in which water is introduced through an upper manifold and returned to a pump through a lower manifold. The system appears to include only a single hydraulic pump.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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